

July 9, 2021

To: Workers' Compensation Claims Examiners

From: Jason Swant, Claims Assistance Supervisor, Employment Relations Division

RE: Claims Examiner Testing and Continuing Education Requirements

In April 2020, due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Employment Relations Division implemented temporary changes for the Claims Examiner Testing and Continuing Education requirements through the state of emergency. Governor Greg Gianforte ended the state of emergency in Montana effective June 30, 2021.

Temporary changes that are now discontinued:

- Ability to re-take the exam if you are short on required CE credits in order to renew.
- Ability to waive a renewal application for lapsed certification fee.
- Ability to request a 6-month extension if you are short on required CE credits in order to renew.

Temporary change made permanent:

• Ability to test from your place of employment, instead of at your local job service. (Requires attestation to the test being completed with only allowed materials and not completed fraudulently.)

The department will continue to make available and provide virtual continuing education opportunities. Please visit the upcoming workshops/conferences for continuing education credits page at http://erd.dli.mt.gov/work-compclaims/claims-assistance/claims-examinercertification/upcoming-workshops for upcoming scheduled opportunities.

Assistance is always available by contacting Nikki Hartman at nhartman@mt.gov. If you believe the pandemic left you unable to meet your renewal requirements before your renewal date, please reach out to Nikki.